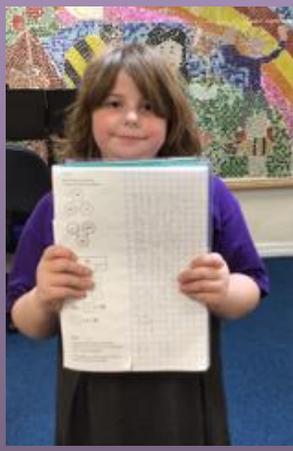




-  We care
-  We are brave
-  We celebrate individuality
-  We leave no one behind



We care



A Message from Mrs Kee

In assembly this week, we focused on our school value 'We care' and the children were able to talk about how they can look after our school environment, keeping it clean and tidy. We compared how it feels to work in a tidy, organised classroom, to one which is untidy and disorganised. In the assembly, I was also so pleased to see all the children looking smart in their school uniforms. Wearing our uniform make us feel like a team, all working together to 'Reach for the Stars' and be the best we can be.

The children in Year 2 have been setting an excellent example to the rest of the school. They know our school rules and have talked to me this week about our school vision and what it means to them. One of them told me that 'Reach for the Stars' means "If you do your best, you can do anything you want." Another told me, "It is about learning so I can go to college and graduate." I think both those statements are excellent examples of what our school vision is all about!

Children in Year 1 have enjoyed learning in the woodlands. They went on a 'word hunt' ticking off the words as they found where they were hidden in the trees. They also followed the clues to locate the home of 'Stickman' and his stick family in our woodlands area.

The children in Reception have impressed me this week with their conduct around school. They follow our school rules, walking sensibly and quietly through the corridors.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to our whole school community for coming together and supporting each other as we have managed some Covid cases in school.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend. See you next week, *Mrs Kee*





Attendance

Whole School (this week)	91.37%
Reception	90.84%
Year 1	89.88%
Year 2	93.24%

Merit Awards

Congratulations to our Merit Award winners this week.



These children have been awarded a Merit certificate this week for following our Golden Rules, showing our school values or demonstrating the star learner principles.

We are very proud of you!



Congratulations to

Woodpeckers

for being the class with the highest attendance this week! Well done on your fantastic attendance this week.

Make sure your child attends school every day so that they get the most from their education.





Covid-19 Update

We have continued to liaise with the Local Authority and follow their advice. They are satisfied with the procedures and processes we have in place. We have continued to keep parents informed as the situation has changed. Thank you to those parents of children who are isolating for bearing with us regarding the Remote Learning. We had some technical issues with Teams, which have now been sorted by our technician. Miss Evans has shared login details with parents so that they are able to access the video lessons at home.

In school, all staff to continue to maintain, and ensure the children maintain, high standards with regards to hygiene: handwashing and hand gel regularly, using tissues and putting them in the bin. All classes continue to have windows ajar during the day for ventilation and then fully air out during break and lunchtimes. There is also an additional clean of touch points during lunchtime. All classes have supplies of antibacterial hand gel.



Staff have worked very hard to ensure that we follow the DfE and Local Authority guidance and we will continue to follow the advice we are given.

NHS Advice regarding Covid

This information has been taken from the NHS website. Please click on the following link for further information. [When to self-isolate and what to do - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do-coronavirus-covid-19)

The NHS states that the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature**
- a new, continuous cough**
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste**



If your child has any of these symptoms, they will need to self-isolate and get a PCR test - please keep school informed. Track and trace are responsible for all contact tracing and advising next steps. You should follow public health advice. The self-isolation rules have changed. If someone you live with has had symptoms, or you are a close contact of someone with symptoms, you do not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- you're under 18 years, 6 months old
- you're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

If any children must self-isolate, they will be provided with remote learning, if they are well enough. Please let us know if they are not well enough to complete remote learning.





KS1 Reading Video

As you are already aware, we had to cancel our KS1 Reading parent event. In order to ensure that parents are still able to receive information about how phonics and reading are taught in school, Mrs Williams has created a video. This has been shared with KS1 parents on the school website. If you are not sure where to locate the video, please visit the curriculum pages of our school website. The video can be found at the bottom of the Home Reading page (in the English section). You can click on this link to go there directly: [Violet Way Academy - Home Reading](#)

The video also provides information about home reading books and reading diaries in KS1.

Parent and Toddler Group - Update

Unfortunately, due to staffing issues, we will have to postpone the toddler group until after the half term. This will also hopefully allow time for the Covid cases to settle down. We are hoping to start after the half term holiday but we will let you know closer to the time. We are disappointed as we were looking forward to welcoming families into school, however, we hope you understand our rationale and reasoning.

A Message about Social Media

We take this opportunity to remind parents that as a school and Trust we work hard to provide an excellent pastoral and educational environment for the children in our care. There may be times where those standards are not met or not perceived to be met, and parents will have concerns that they quite rightly want to be addressed. We respectfully ask that if you do have a concern, then the correct way of raising that concern is with the class teacher or headteacher and, if necessary, through the formal complaints policy. Social media channels are never acceptable forums for discussing concerns about the school, as it can raise data protection and safeguarding issues, the full facts will not be known and it can lead to further unnecessary breakdown in parent and teacher relations. We will always listen to your concerns and attempt to achieve a resolution.





Dates for your diary

Staffordshire Term Dates 2021-22

Autumn Term 2021

Inset day: Wednesday 1 September

Term Starts: Thursday 2 September

Half Term: Monday 25 October – Friday 29 October

Term ends: Friday 17 December

Holiday: Monday 20 December – Monday 3 January

Spring Term 2022

Inset day: Tuesday 4 January

Term Starts: Wednesday 5 January

Half Term: Monday 21 February – Friday 25 February

Term ends: Thursday 7 April

Inset day: Friday 8 April

Holiday: Monday 11 April – Friday 22 April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 17 April

Summer Term 2022

Term starts: Monday 25 April

May Day: Monday 2 May

Half Term: Monday 30 May – Friday 3 June

Term ends: Wednesday 20 July

Holiday: Thursday 21 July – Friday 2 September

Violet Way Inset Days

Wednesday 1st September

Friday 22nd October

Tuesday 4th January

Friday 8th April

Monday 6th June (School closed for Queen's Jubilee)

Monday 20th June

What's Coming Up?

Curriculum Morning (Reading focus) – Year 1 and Year 2 – Thursday 16th September



Parent and Toddler sessions begin on Tuesday 21st September (9:00am-10:30am)



Y1 Packington Farm trips -

Ladybirds – Monday 20th September

Busy Bees – Tuesday 21st September

Dragonflies – Thursday 23rd September



Tempest individual school photographs – Wednesday 13th October

Harvest Assemblies – YR, Y1, Y2 – Thursday 14th October (please send in non-perishable food donations for the food bank into school from Monday 11th October)

Anti-Bullying Week Theme: One Kind Word – week commencing Monday 15th November

Odd Socks day celebrating individuality and uniqueness – Monday 15th November

Speak Out Stay Safe (NSPCC) – YR, Y1, Y2 – week commencing 22nd November

Flu immunisations – Wednesday 1st December

Christmas Carol Concert at St Peter's Church – week commencing 13th December TBC

